

business studies at University of Copenhagen, has a bachelors degree in computer science from the University of Tennessee, and a masters degree in technical management from Johns Hopkins University.

I soon discovered that, in addition to her warm and engaging personality, Margie has earned enormous respect from those most involved in and most knowledgeable about cybersecurity issues. Success in cybersecurity requires a unique partnership of government and industry, and Margie has done a great deal to promote that relationship so necessary for success. She has guided the subcommittee to the issues that matter most. Her deep understanding of the issues and of the limitations of some proposed solutions, as well as her personal touch, have benefited all who have worked with her, inside and outside of government.

Dr. Julie Canepa has advised the committee on technology issues. Julie is a scientist at Los Alamos National Laboratory. She has a BS in chemistry from Saint Mary's College in Indiana and her Ph.D. in chemistry is from Arizona State University. Among the many jobs she has had at Los Alamos are Program Manager for Environmental Restoration Project and Program Manager for the Los Alamos work with the Yucca Mountain Project. She has published a number of articles.

Protecting the American homeland requires the research, development, and utilization of technologies. This part of the Department of Homeland Security is totally new, and Julie has helped get it off on the right foot. The range of technologies and issues associated with them is enormous. From communications interoperability to radiological detection to vaccines and antidotes, Julie has had to understand not only the technology, but also the government and industry processes which could bring those technologies into use. In addition to her enormous gifts of intellect, she also has a special talent for helping others, who may not have her breath and depth of understanding and knowledge, feel comfortable with very complex subject matter.

I recognize that Federal agencies have a difficult time allowing significant numbers of employees work in other agencies or in other branches of government. However, I believe more strongly than ever that our country is well served when those who have a particular expertise and perspective are allowed to share that with the legislative branch. In the situation of this subcommittee with so much to learn about very technical subjects, I simply do not know what the committee or I would have done without the benefit of these two exceptional public servants.

The last 2 years have seen much progress and some frustrations in homeland security. We clearly have much left to do. But with the continued work of dedicated, talented professionals like Margie Gilbert and Julie Canepa, we will be successful. And I have no doubt that these two outstanding individuals will continue to contribute to the security of the country in many ways and for many years to come.

HARD TIMES

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, times are hard, and this Republican Congress and the White House are oblivious to it.

Middle class families are being squeezed from every direction. And what have Republicans done about it? Nothing.

Before President Bush took office, 22 million new jobs had been created. Since then, over 1.7 million jobs have been lost.

Instead of creating new jobs, Republicans gave tax cuts to companies that send jobs overseas.

When President Bush took office, the number of uninsured Americans had dropped for the first time in 12 years. Now, 45 million Americans cannot afford to get sick because they have no health insurance.

Four years ago, we had a \$236 billion budget surplus. Now, thanks to tax cuts for the wealthiest Americans, the national credit card is maxed out.

Meanwhile, over a thousand Americans have died in Iraq.

American families be warned, if the White House doesn't send your jobs overseas, they'll send your kids.

HONORING BLACKIE BLACK OF BAGDAD BUILDERS INCORPORATED

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Blackie Black, and to thank him for patriotically helping our wounded war heroes who are returning home to their communities.

The strength of America lies in the hearts and souls of our citizens. All across our country, people are donating their time and talents to improving lives and strengthening communities. We have a shining example of this in our very own backyard of Santa Rosa County.

The most recent acts of kindness by Northwest Floridians have had a profound effect on people's lives and on the future of our country. They once again are going beyond meeting the essential needs in the communities, knowing the fulfillment that only comes from serving a cause greater than self. Many volunteers got started in the same way: because someone asked them. In our community that someone was Blackie Black of Bagdad Builders Incorporated.

Blackie is constructing the 3,400-square-foot home in Clear Creek near Allentown, Florida for medically retired Army Staff Sergeant Dustin Tuller. Staff Sergeant Tuller came to Bagdad Builders to build his home, however it was County Commissioner Don Salter who sought donations from the community to pay for the home. Commissioner Salter rallied the local community to get involved and numerous contractors came on board to help complete the construction with such goods and services as free labor, insulation from Coastal Insula-

tion, materials from Home Depot, free termite treatment donated by Terminix, free heating and air conditioning, and the list continues to grow.

Blackie Black is a native Northwest Floridian, born in Milton. He and his wife Bonnie own and operate Bagdad Builders and have been involved in giving back to the community for years. He belongs to a religious builders group, which travels the globe building homes for disadvantaged people and churches for communities. He has been doing this for years, but now the dedicated, caring, Santa Rosa County resident is giving back to his neighbor who fought bravely for the freedom of the Iraqis.

Recently, Dustin was asked in an interview, "Do you think other communities can do this as well?" Dustin responded, "That's not the question. Will they? Not can they, but will they?"

America is a compassionate and generous land. With their good works, volunteers are showing the heart and soul of our people, which is the greatest strength of our nation.

In keeping with Commissioner Salter's motto, "We take care of our own in Santa Rosa County." Dustin, Alisha, Dillyn, Zachery, Dammy, and Lexi will always be grateful for the financial assistance and support the community and you have so generously given.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Blackie Black for the example he has set in his community. I offer my sincere thanks for all that he has done for Northwest Florida and this great nation.

THE HONORABLE SANDRA S. BECKWITH BECOMES FIRST WOMAN CHIEF JUDGE OF THE U.S. DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 30, 2004

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Judge Sandra S. Beckwith, who on Monday, October 4, 2004 will become the first woman to hold the position of chief judge for the U.S. District Court of the Southern District of Ohio.

Landmark achievements are nothing new for Judge Beckwith. Born on a military base in Norfolk, Virginia while her father served in the United States Navy, she grew up in Cincinnati hoping to follow in the footsteps of her grandfather, Reed A. Shank, who was the physician for the Cincinnati Reds, Cincinnati Bengals and the University of Cincinnati athletic teams. After beginning in the pre-med program at the University of Cincinnati, Judge Beckwith later changed to pre-law at the suggestion of her father.

Judge Beckwith graduated from the University of Cincinnati's William Howard Taft College of Law with honors and received the Betty Kuhn Memorial Prize for the top woman graduate. She started practicing law in Harrison, Ohio with her father, Charles L. Shank. In 1977, she began a series of career milestones as she was appointed, and later elected, as the first woman to serve on the Hamilton County Municipal Court. Judge Beckwith has been the first woman elected to the Hamilton County Court of Common Pleas, Division